STAT
Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release @ 50-Yr 2014/03/21 : CIA-RDP73-00475R000402760005-4

MIAMI HERALD

MAY 28 1964

# Cuban Air Drop Claimed From 'Base in Caribbean'

An anti-Castro exile organization, the 30th of November Movement, has claimed an air drop over Cuba in which it delivered supplies to guerrillas in the mountains and then spilled 150,000 leaflets over the city of Santiago.

There was no confirmation from Cuba that the mission took place. Havana Radio normally responds to such missions.

The organization's announcement said the raid Monday morning came from a "secret Caribbean base." However, in Washington, Sen. George Smathers and Rep. Paul Rogers of Florida indicated the plane left and returned to Florida without being detected by the U.S. air defense system.

**Sen. Smathers called for an investigation of "what certainly appears to be slipshod security . . ." Rep. Rogers also asked for an investigation, and said such a flight would represent an "inexcusable gap" in air defense.**

In Key West, at the Naval Air Station, Admiral Louis J. Kirn said, "I do not know anything about the incident." Air Force Col. Elmer McTaggart of the Air Defense Command said, "I am not in a position to comment on it."

A Department of Defense spokesman in Washington added, "At this time we have no information about what happened — if anything did occur. There seems to be some doubt."

In Miami, one informed source responded by asking, "How could the flight be detected if it didn't happen?"

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release @ 50-Yr 2014/03/21 : CIA-RDP73-00475R000402760005-4